

Docket No. AB-047U2

Amendments to and Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein the stimulation pulse is an electrical pulse.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein the stimulation pulse is a drug infusion pulse.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein implanting the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion is executed with a vaginal approach, which vaginal approach includes guiding an insertion tool through the vaginal wall and depositing the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion adjacent to the at least one tissue of the perineum to be stimulated.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein implanting the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion is executed with a rectal approach, which rectal approach includes guiding an insertion tool through the anal wall and depositing the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion adjacent to the at least one tissue of the perineum to be stimulated.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion are positioned adjacent to at least one of the pudendal nerve and a pudendal nerve branch.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 further comprising providing a programmable memory within the stimulator for receiving and retaining the stimulation parameters.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 further comprising providing a power source within the stimulator for providing operating power to the stimulator.

Appl. No. 09/931,804
Response dated January 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 13, 2004

Page 2 of 13

Docket No. AB-047U2

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 further comprising providing at least one external appliance for transmitting the stimulation parameters to the stimulator.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein said at least one tissue includes the pudendal nerve, and wherein the method treats incontinence, urgency, frequency, and/or pelvic pain.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein said at least one tissue includes at least one of the dorsal nerve of the clitoris and the dorsal nerve of the penis, and wherein the method treats urinary urge incontinence and/or detrusor hyperreflexia.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein said at least one tissue is a nerve that innervates at least one of the urethra and the detrusor muscle, and wherein the method treats urinary retention.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein said at least one tissue is a nerve that innervates at least one of the internal urethral sphincter, the external urethral sphincter, and an intramuscular branch of a urethral sphincter, and wherein the method treats urinary stress incontinence.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein said at least one tissue is a nerve that innervates at least one of the clitoris and vagina, and wherein the method treats vaginismus, dyspareunia, anorgasmia, and/or other female sexual dysfunctions.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 wherein said at least one tissue is a nerve that innervates at least one of the rectum and colon, and wherein the method treats constipation, fecal retention and/or colorectal hypomotility.

Docket No. AB-047U2

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 further comprising providing at least one sensor to sense a physical condition, and adjusting the stimulation parameters based on the sensed condition.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 17 further comprising adjusting the stimulation parameters using at least one external appliance.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 17 further comprising adjusting the stimulation parameters using the implantable stimulator.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 wherein the stimulator is configured to generate an electrical stimulation pulse.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 wherein the stimulation is configured to generate a drug infusion stimulation pulse.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 further comprising means for implanting the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion adjacent to at least one of the pudendal nerve and a pudendal nerve branch.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 wherein the stimulator includes a programmable memory for receiving and retaining the stimulation parameters.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 further comprising a power source for providing operating power to the stimulator.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 25 wherein the power source is housed within the stimulator.

Appl. No. 09/931,804
Response dated January 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 13, 2004

Page 4 of 13

Docket No. AB-047U2

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 26 wherein the power source is rechargeable.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 further comprising at least one external appliance for transmitting power to the stimulator.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 further comprising at least one external appliance for transmitting the stimulation parameters to the stimulator.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The system of Claim 20 further comprising at least one sensor, and wherein the stimulation parameters are adjusted based on the sensed condition.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method of treating patients ~~with incontinence, urgency, frequency, and/or pelvic pain,~~ comprising:

providing a stimulator that generates a stimulation pulse in accordance with prescribed stimulation parameters;

providing at least one of

a) a lead connected to the stimulator, which lead includes at least two electrodes and

b) a catheter connected to the stimulator, which catheter includes a discharge portion

~~whereby wherein~~ the stimulation pulse is delivered to a pudendal nerve at least one tissue adjacent the electrodes or catheter discharge portion;

perineally or vaginally implanting the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion adjacent to the pudendal nerve at least one tissue to be stimulated;

implanting the stimulator at a location remote from the pudendal nerve at least one tissue to be stimulated; and

tunneling the lead and/or catheter subcutaneously to the stimulator location.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The method of Claim 31 wherein the pudendal nerve to be stimulated includes at least one branch of at least one pudendal nerve at least one tissue to be

Appl. No. 09/931,804

Response dated January 13, 2005

Reply to Office action of September 13, 2004

Page 5 of 13

Docket No. AB-047U2

~~stimulated includes at least one of a periurethral muscle, urethral sphincter, anal sphincter, pudendal nerve, clitoral branch of the pudendal nerve, penile branch of the pudendal nerve, inferior rectal branch of the pudendal nerve, urethral branch of the pudendal nerve, pelvic nerve, and pelvic floor nerves.~~

Claim 33 (original): The method of Claim 32 wherein the stimulation is delivered at less than about 50 to 100 Hz.

Claims 34-35 (cancelled)

Claim 36 (original): The method of Claim 31 wherein the at least one implantable stimulator further comprises at least one sensor.

Claim 37 (original): The method of Claim 36 further comprising sensing a condition using the at least one sensor and adjusting the stimulation parameters based on the sensed condition.

Claim 38 (original): The method of Claim 37 further comprising performing the parameter adjustment using at least one external appliance.

Claim 39 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 37 further comprising performing the parameter adjustment using the implantable stimulator.

Claim 40 (new): A method for stimulating at least one tissue affecting specific anatomical structures of the perineum, comprising:

- providing a stimulator that generates a stimulation pulse in accordance with prescribed stimulation parameters;
- providing at least one of
 - a) a lead connected to the stimulator, which lead includes at least two electrodes and

Docket No. AB-047U2

b) a catheter connected to the stimulator, which catheter includes at least one discharge portion,

wherein the stimulation pulse is delivered to a pudendal nerve adjacent the electrodes or catheter discharge portion;

implanting the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion adjacent to the pudendal nerve of the perineum to be stimulated;

implanting the stimulator at a location remote from the pudendal nerve to be stimulated; and

tunneling the lead and/or catheter subcutaneously to the stimulator location.

Claim 41 (new): The method of Claim 40 wherein implanting the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion is executed with a perineal approach, which perineal approach includes steps for guiding an insertion tool through the skin of the perineum and depositing the electrodes and/or catheter discharge portion adjacent to the pudendal nerve to be stimulated.

Claim 42 (new): The method of Claim 41 further comprising providing a programmable memory within the stimulator for receiving and retaining the stimulation parameters.

Claim 43 (new): The method of Claim 41 further comprising providing a power source within the stimulator for providing operating power to the stimulator.

Claim 44 (new): The method of Claim 41 further comprising providing at least one external appliance for transmitting the stimulation parameters to the stimulator.

Claim 45 (new): The method of Claim 41 further comprising providing at least one sensor to sense a physical condition, and adjusting the stimulation parameters based on the sensed condition.

Claim 46 (new): The method of Claim 41 further comprising adjusting the stimulation parameters using at least one external appliance.

Appl. No. 09/931,804

Response dated January 13, 2005

Reply to Office action of September 13, 2004

Page 7 of 13

Docket No. AB-047U2

Claim 47 (new): The method of Claim 41 further comprising adjusting the stimulation parameters using the implantable stimulator.

Claim 48 (new): The method of Claim 41 wherein the stimulator is configured to generate an electrical stimulation pulse.

Claim 49 (new): The method of Claim 41 wherein the stimulation is configured to generate a drug infusion stimulation pulse.

Claim 50 (new): A method of treating a patient, comprising:

- providing at least one stimulator that generates at least one stimulation pulse in accordance with prescribed stimulation parameters of a stimulation regime;
- providing at least one lead, which lead includes at least one electrode;
- electrically connecting the at least one lead to the at least one stimulator;
- delivering the at least one stimulation pulse to a portion of at least one pudendal nerve adjacent the at least one electrode;
- implanting the at least one lead wherein the at least one electrode is implanted adjacent to the at least one pudendal nerve; and
- implanting the at least one stimulator at a location remote from the at least one pudendal nerve to be stimulated; and
- wherein at least a branch of the at least one pudendal nerve leads to the perineum of a patient.

Claim 51 (new): The method of Claim 50 wherein the at least one stimulator is at least one implantable pulse generator.

Claim 52 (new): The method of Claim 51 further comprising providing operating power to the at least implantable pulse generator from a rechargeable power source.

Claim 53 (new): The method of Claim 51 further comprising:

Appl. No. 09/931,804
Response dated January 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 13, 2004

Page 8 of 13

Docket No. AB-047U2

providing operating power to the at least one implantable pulse generator; and
transmitting stimulation parameters to the at least one implantable pulse
generator from at least one external appliance.